

ABSTRACT

HA-121

MASON-DIXON LINE: MILESTONE NO. 27(29)

1766 (reset 1902)

Cardiff/Delta, Maryland/Pennsylvania vicinity
Public/private

Milestone No. 27(29) marks Mason and Dixon's 27th mile west of the initial stone at the northeast corner of Maryland, the beginning point of their 230.228-mile West Line, the longest of their survey lines run and marked to define the boundary between the English provinces of Maryland and Pennsylvania. The monument, first set in 1766, is an embellished oolitic limestone post with a low pyramidal top, quarried and carved in England, originally measuring about 12" square by about 4½' long and cut to stand about 3' above ground. Reset in 1902 to stand about 1½' high, it now stands about 1' high, remains in good condition, unaltered, and firmly set at its original site. The capital letters P on the north (Pennsylvania) side and M on the south (Maryland) side are clear and intact, as are most of the fluting and margins. On the federal and state levels, this monument is primarily significant not only as one of the series of original markers still defining the boundary commonly known as the Mason-Dixon Line since Civil War times, but also for its representation of the settlement of longstanding provincial boundary disputes and innovative survey methods utilized by Mason and Dixon a century earlier. Locally, as one of 17 original monuments still standing along the present Harford/York county boundary, it is also significant as one of the diminishing number of objects and structures visually identifiable with our colonial and Civil War heritage.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME BOUNDARY MARKERS ALONG THE MASON-DIXON LINE (THEMATIC GROUP)

HISTORIC (Mason and Dixon's) West Line, 27th Mile Stone

AND/OR COMMON

Mason-Dixon Line: Milestone No. 27 (1900-03 Resurvey Monument No. 29)

2 LOCATION (not for publication)

STREET & NUMBER off west side of Prospect Road (MD 646/PA T-62)

CITY, TOWN

Cardiff/Delta

☒

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

MD: 1 / PA: 19

STATE

Maryland/Pennsylvania

COUNTY

MD: Harford / PA: York

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
			<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER

state boundary marker

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY (monument only; see Thematic Group NR nomination form)

NAME State of Maryland/Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION N/A

(see surrounding property ownership list)

COURTHOUSE

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS (also see Thematic Group NR nomination form)

TITLE Harford County Historic Sites Inventory

DATE

HA-121 entered 11/69

☐ FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Maryland Historical Trust

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland

7 DESCRIPTION

81-121

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT
☒ GOOD
☐ FAIR
☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☒ UNALTERED
☐ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Milestone No. 27(29) marks Mason and Dixon's 27th horizontal mile west of the initial stone at the northeast corner of Maryland, the beginning point of their West Line. It is an original milestone of 1766^{in good condition, unaltered, and} at an original site^{preliminarily surveyed in 1765.}

The area here is predominately rural, sparsely settled, modest farms on rolling land interspersed by patches of woodlands, and with new housing springing up along the main roads. The site is about 1½ miles east-southeast from the town of Delta, Pennsylvania; about 2 miles east of the town of Cardiff, Maryland; about 700' west of Prospect Road (MD 646/PA T-62); about 250' west of the Harryman house and barns, in a mowed gap in a honeysuckle/fence row separating the yard from their fields. It cannot be seen from the road, but easily from the Harryman house, all seasons.

The monument, reset^{to stand about 1½' above ground} in 1902 during the course of the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary, now stands about 1' high, measures about 11¼" wide on the north and south faces, about 11½" wide on the east and west faces. As with all original Mason and Dixon West Line monuments: it is an embellished, squared, oolitic limestone post with a low pyramidal top, and was quarried and carved in England, originally about 12" square, by about 4½' long, cut to stand about 3' above ground. The capital letters P on the north (Pennsylvania) side and M on the south (Maryland) side and their circle panels are distinct and intact, as is most of the fluting and margins on all four sides and the top planes, though there are many small chips along all edges and corners and a very large shallow chip running along the entire top west side. Still firmly in place, it is protected by the property owners and location of site.

(see Thematic Group NR nomination form for descriptions of the original Mason and Dixon monuments and the 1900-03 Resurvey method of resetting them)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) boundary surveying	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES 1766 (reset 1902) ~~BUILDER/ARCHITECT~~ Charles Mason & Jeremiah Dixon
SURVEYORS

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Milestone No. 27(29) first set in 1766 and reset in 1902 in its original site, is significant on the federal and state levels, primarily as one of a series of 135 original Mason and Dixon monuments still standing along their West Line, commonly known since Civil War times as the Mason-Dixon Line, notable for its historical impact and innovative boundary survey methods. Individually, and as one of 17 original monuments marking the present Harford/York county boundary, No. 27(29) is also significant locally as one of a diminishing number of objects and structures with a visually identifiable relationship to our colonial and Civil War heritage.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT (see Thematic Group National Register nomination form)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

(see Thematic Group National Register nomination form)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATAACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre

Quadrangle name: Norrisville, USGS 7.5 minute series; scale 1:24 000

UTM reference: zone 18, easting 38870, northing 439740

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION N/A

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE Maryland COUNTY Harford

STATE Pennsylvania COUNTY York

11 FORM PREPARED BY (also see MHT-HSI form by Jean Ewing 11/69)

NAME / TITLE Alice Martin (volunteer, Mason-Dixon Line boundary marker surveyor)

ORGANIZATION	Maryland Historical Trust/Maryland Geological Survey	DATE	12/12/79 (site surveyed with Jean Ewing)
STREET & NUMBER	14308 Mount Avenue	TELEPHONE	301/472-2128
CITY OR TOWN	Phoenix	STATE	Maryland 21131

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

1301214234
H A - 121a
N. R. FIELD SHEET

STATE:	
COUNTY:	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME	
COMMON:	Mason - Dixon Stone Marker #27
AND/OR HISTORIC:	

2. LOCATION	
STREET AND NUMBER: About 50 feet west of the barn, Erwin Taylor's farm,	
CITY OR TOWN: near Cardell West side, Prospect Road about 1.0 mi north of Delp Road at the	
STATE: Maryland	COUNTY: Harford.

3. CLASSIFICATION			
CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both <input type="checkbox"/>	Public Acquisition: In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input type="checkbox"/>	Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/>
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/>	Government <input type="checkbox"/>	Park <input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation <input type="checkbox"/>
Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	Industrial <input type="checkbox"/>	Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/>	Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/>
Educational <input type="checkbox"/>	Military <input type="checkbox"/>	Religious <input type="checkbox"/>	Stone Marker.
Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/>	Museum <input type="checkbox"/>	Scientific <input type="checkbox"/>	

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY	
OWNERS NAME: Erwin Taylor	
STREET AND NUMBER: RFD	
CITY OR TOWN: Delta	STATE: Pa

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION	
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Clerk of Circuit Court	
STREET AND NUMBER: Harford County Courthouse 40 S. Main St	
CITY OR TOWN: Bel Air	STATE: Maryland

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS	
TITLE OF SURVEY:	
DATE OF SURVEY: Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local <input type="checkbox"/>	
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:	
STREET AND NUMBER:	
CITY OR TOWN:	STATE:

STATE:
COUNTY:
ENTRY NUMBER
DATE

Cofor 121a = 6930

121b = 6929

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	Excellent <input type="checkbox"/>	Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Fair <input type="checkbox"/>	Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/>	Ruins <input type="checkbox"/>	Unexpased <input type="checkbox"/>
INTEGRITY	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	Altered <input type="checkbox"/>			Unaltered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
				Moved <input type="checkbox"/>		
				Original Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This marker, one of the type used
 for every one-mile mark, is of a white
 stone, about 12" x 12" x 12" above ground,
 with M for Maryland engraved on the
 south side, P for Pennsylvania on the
 north side.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Pre-Columbian ☐16th Century ☐18th Century ☒20th Century ☐15th Century ☐17th Century ☐19th Century ☐

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Aboriginal ☐Education ☐Political ☒Urban Planning ☐Prehistoric ☐Engineering ☐

Religion/Phi-

Other (Specify) ☐Historic ☐Industry ☐losophy ☐Agriculture ☐Invention ☐Science ☐Art ☐Landscape ☐Sculpture ☐Commerce ☐Architecture ☐

Social/Human-

Communications ☐Literature ☐itarian ☒Conservation ☐Military ☐Theater ☐Music ☐Transportation ☐

History

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

An original Mason-Dixon line stone.
 In 1763 Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon arrived from England to ~~establish~~ survey and establish the east-west-runnal boundary line disputed until that time for seventy five years by the Penn's colonists and Lord Calvert's people in Maryland. Established at $39^{\circ}43'62''$ ~~north latitude~~ ^{the} boundary location was a compromise between the 40° parallel claimed by Lord Calvert and the "interpretation" of 40° ~~latitude~~ Penn. ~~the~~ claimed; ~~that was the~~ everything above the 39° parallel, he stated, lay in the fortieth degree.

This state line is used generally as the division between the northern and southern states, and hence has nation wide importance.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Boundary Monuments on the Maryland - Pennsylvania
and Maryland - Delaware Boundaries
 by H. Bayliff Maryland Board of
 Natural Resources, Annapolis, 1 June 1951.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN ONE ACRE		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: <u>Jean S. Perif</u>		
ORGANIZATION: <u>Maryland Historic Trust</u>	DATE: <u>Nov 69</u>	
STREET AND NUMBER: <u>58 State Circle</u>		
CITY OR TOWN: <u>Annapolis</u>	STATE: <u>Maryland</u>	CODE: <u></u>

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Name _____

Title _____

Date _____

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

 Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1956 PHOTO REV. 1974 SCALE: 1" = 2000'





MHT

HA-121

Mason & Dixon west line marker # 27 (29)

SW CORNER (-/14)

PHOTO: JEAN



Mason & Dixon west line, marker #27(29)

NE CORNER (-1P)

PHOTO: JEAN,
Frame 32



HES 1447

MNT-HSI: HA-121

Mason & Dixon west line: stone 27
(29)

1979.13.8A

12/12/79

PHOTO;
Alice Martin 22 Feb 80

LOOKING NE

Site showing limestone ledger row



HA- 121

Nov 69 JSC

Drum. Disc. Stone #27



HA 121

Nov 69 JSE

Mason Dixon Stone #27